

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/755,237

Examiner

Raquel Y. Gordon

Applicant(s)

MAKI ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

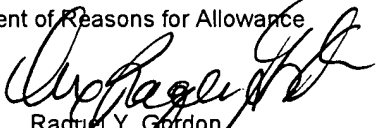
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to this initial application filed 1/12/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/180,451.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 1/12/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


Raquel Y. Gordon
Primary Examiner
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Reasons for allowance

The following is a statement of reasons for allowance:

Upon consideration, the inclusion of the claimed ink jet recording apparatus, as claimed in the combination, is not found in the prior art.

With respect to claims 1, 14, and 15, the primary reasons for allowance is the following claimed elements are not found in the prior art::

1. An ink jet recording apparatus comprising: (a) a nozzle for discharging ink; (b) a recording head having said nozzle; (c) an ink tank for supplying the ink to said recording head; (d) a carriage for carrying said recording head; (e) a motor for driving said carriage; (f) a flexible electric wire coupled with said recording head for sending a printing signal to said recording head; and **(g) a carriage frame for supporting said carriage and said motor; wherein said carriage, said motor and said carriage frame are coupled together for installation to and removal from said ink jet recording apparatus as a single unit.**

14. An ink jet recording apparatus comprising: (a) a nozzle for discharging ink; (b) a recording head having said nozzle; (c) an ink tank for supplying the ink to said recording head; (d) a carriage for carrying said recording head; (e) a carriage-driving device for driving said carriage; (f) a flexible electric wire coupled with said recording head for sending a printing signal to said recording head; and **(g) a carriage frame for supporting said carriage and carriage-driving device, wherein said carriage, said carriage-driving device, said electric wire and said carriage frame are coupled**

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together for installation to and removal from said ink jet recording apparatus as a single unit;

15. An ink jet recording apparatus comprising: (a) a nozzle for discharging ink; (b) a recording head having said nozzle; (c) an ink tank for supplying the ink to said recording head; (d) a carriage for carrying said recording head; (e) a carriage-driving device for driving said carriage; (f) a flexible electric wire coupled with said recording head for sending a printing signal to said recording head; and **(g) a carriage frame for supporting said carriage and carriage-driving device, wherein said electric wire is supported by a feed tube provided between said ink tank and said recording head for supplying the ink to said recording head, and said carriage, said carriage-driving device, said electric wire, said tube and said carriage frame are coupled together for installation to and removal from said ink jet recording apparatus as a single unit.**

Takemura et al. (US 5907343) and Meyer et al. (US 6533393) teach a similar invention, however, each reference teaches the frame is fixed to the housing so as not to be removable with the carriage.

For example, Takemura et al. teach a carriage 43, a frame 45, a motor 46, and a flexible electric wire 52 (see fig 1A). However, contrary to the claims, Takemura et al. do

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not teach a frame installable or removable with the carriage, motor, driving device, and/or electric wire. (See col 5, line 34- col 7, line 54, and fig 4).

Further, for example, Meyer et al. teach a carriage (20), a frame (10), a motor (15, 50), and a flexible electric wire (see flexible wire in figure 1A). Nevertheless, contrary to the claims, Meyer et al. do not teach a frame installable or removable with the carriage, motor, driving device, and/or electric wire. Meyer et al. is instead directed to improved printing throughput (see abstract).

These teachings are contrary to the claimed invention. Since Takemura et al. and Meyer et al. do not teach or suggest the claimed invention, the claims are deemed allowed. Further, the claims dependent claims are allowed since they depend from dependant base claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Raquel Y. Gordon, whose telephone number is (571) 272-2145. The Examiner can normally be reached on M Tu Th and F 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. A fax number is available upon request.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be directed to the Examiner or Supervisor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raquel Y. Gordon', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Raquel Y. Gordon
Primary Examiner
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September 6, 2004